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TABLE OF CONTENTS for JULY, 1936

Chemical Wizards Remake the World We Live In 9
New marvels conjured from the test tube, described by ALDEN P. ARMAGNAC

Climbers Prepare for Latest Attack on Mount Everest 12
Earth's highest point lures explorers to last great adventure

When Machines "Get Rhythm" 18
JESSE F. GELDERS *pictures the havoc wrought by odd pranks of vibration*

Strange Tests Gauge Senses of Dumb Creatures 20
How animals tell scientists what they see and feel

An Expert Tells You How To Take Care of Fishing Tackle . . 28
Well-kept equipment adds to the pleasure of the sport, says ROY L. HASLETT

Tank Ships—Perpetual-Motion Machines of the Sea 30
ANDREW R. BOONE *takes you aboard the vessels that carry the world's oil supply*

Weird Schemes To Make It Rain—But They Never Work . . . 34
ROBERT E. MARTIN *finds the "weather makers" still thinking up fantastic ideas*

The Bicycle Comes Back 40
An amazing revival of a fad of the nineties, reviewed by JOHN E. LODGE

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FEATURES AND DEPARTMENTS

New Tools for Home Repair . . 4
Our Readers Say— 6
The Man With the Net 39
Insects Under the Microscope . . 42
How the Universe Was Formed . 44
Un-Natural History 45
Handy Aids for the Homemaker . 46
Home Experiments With Fire . . 48
Inexpensive Metal-Tube Receiver 51
Flyweight Radio Set 52
New Helps for Radio Builders . 53
Hunting Trouble in Your Car . 54
The Home Workshop 55

Cover Design by EDGAR F. WITTMACK

AUTOMOBILES

Eye Test for Tipsy Drivers . . 22
Clinic for Motorists 33
Removable Car Ramp 76
Dash Pilot Warns of Open Door 76
Stop-Light Telltale 76
Roller Map Holder 76
Tracing Short Circuits 76
Notebook and Pencil Holder . . 76

AVIATION

New Design for Autogiro . . . 15
Vehicle Teaches Plane Control . 24
Bubble Sextant Aids Pilots . . 25
Planes Get Magnetic Altimeter . 27
Airplane Deck for Liner . . . 37
Autogiro Flies From Stage . . . 39

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How animals tell scientists what they see and feel

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Well-kept equipment adds to the pleasure of the sport, says ROY L. HASLETT

Tank Ships—Perpetual-Motion Machines of the Sea 30
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Our Readers Say— 6
The Man With the Net 39
Insects Under the Microscope . . 42
How the Universe Was Formed . 44
Un-Natural History 45
Handy Aids for the Homemaker . 46
Home Experiments With Fire . . 48
Inexpensive Metal-Tube Receiver 51
Flyweight Radio Set 52
New Helps for Radio Builders . 53
Hunting Trouble in Your Car . 54
The Home Workshop 55

Cover Design by EDGAR F. WITTMACK

AUTOMOBILES

Eye Test for Tipsy Drivers . . 22
Clinic for Motorists 33
Removable Car Ramp 76
Dash Pilot Warns of Open Door 76
Stop-Light Telltale 76
Roller Map Holder 76
Tracing Short Circuits 76
Notebook and Pencil Holder . . 76

AVIATION

New Design for Autogiro . . . 15
Vehicle Teaches Plane Control . 24
Bubble Sextant Aids Pilots . . 25
Planes Get Magnetic Altimeter . 27
Airplane Deck for Liner . . . 37
Autogiro Flies From Stage . . . 39

POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY FOR JULY, 1936

MODELS

Coast Guard Patrol-Boat Model . 55
Bridge for Model Railway . . . 79
Low-Wing Training Plane . . . 88
Kit for Patrol-Boat Model . . . 96

NEW PROCESSES AND INVENTIONS

Lifeboat Launched Like Torpedo 15
Portable Beach Seat Rolls Up . 16
Strings Go 'Round on Novel Harp 17
Life Preserver Fits Neck . . . 17
Rapid-Fire Tear-Gas Gun . . . 17
Zigzag Armor Deflects Bullets . 22
Collapsible Boat and Bicycle . . 23
Drill Guide Holds Bit at Angle . 23
Air Screen Forms Dust Mask . . 24
Purifier Dissolves Poison Gas . 24
Eggs Graded by Electric Eye . 24
Sewing Machine for Travelers . 24
Device Amplifies Heartbeats . . 25
Kit Makes Portable Lavatory . 25
Self-Steering Baby Carriage . . 26
Transformer Heats Solder Tool . 26
Folding Goal Posts Foil Fans . 26
Weatherproof Garden Labels . 26
Novel Saw Cuts Tree Branches . 36
Cigarette Has Filter in Tip . . 36
War Tank Like Rolling Ball . . 37
Meter Gauges Moisture in Wood . 38
Shears Grip Cut Flower . . . 38
Vacuum Brush Dusts Books . . 39

PHOTOGRAPHY

Makes Movies or Stills 15
Purse Conceals Camera 27
Enlarger Folds Into Case . . . 36
Movies Show Cylinder Flames . 38
T-Rod for Stirring Chemicals . . 62
Safe Photo Intensifier 74
Mounting Prints To Stay Flat . . 74
Lightproof Vent for Darkroom . 74
Reflectors From Tin Foil . . . 74
Fuse for Flash Powder 81
Salvaging Contrasty Prints . . . 85
Filtering Your Developers . . . 99

RADIO

Stores Get Wired-Radio Programs 14
Pipe Line Carries Radio Waves . 16
Automatic Radio in Balloon . . 23
Dual Radio Receiver Ends Noises 36

UNUSUAL FACTS AND IDEAS

Produces Modern Unicorn . . . 14
Electricity Drives Tractor . . . 14
Student Finds Rare Fossil . . . 16
Window in Living Rat 16
Sea Yields Magnesium 16
Shotgun Shells Spray Insects . . 16
Combine Checkers, Cards, Chess 17
Novel Way to Sell Coats . . . 22
Fit Subway as Air-Raid Shelter . 23
Need Carbon Dioxide 24
Lights Trace Record of Dives . 25
Capsule Holds Tree Tonic . . . 25
Tasters and Trout Test Water . 26
Design Transparent Balloon . . 27
Camp Has Concrete "Tepees" . 27
Would Add to Alphabet . . . 27
Shows Radium in the Body . . 27
Equips Laboratory From Our Plans 36
Biggest Bug Fifteen Inches Long 37
Hot Water Warms Diver . . . 37
Beach Meal Cooked by Sun . . 38
Cabin Windows Hewn From Ice . 39
Home Tests of Scientific Laws . 50

CRAFTWORK

Carved Wooden Fruit Dish . . . 62
Lighting the Miniature Stage . . 67
An Accurate Sundial 70
Wood Carving From Picture . . 77
Modern Novelties From Bottles . 78

WOODWORKING

Ornamental Arbors and Gates . . 59
Beautiful Heirloom Chests . . . 60
Good Furniture Finishing . . . 64
Home Workshop Blueprints . . 84

IDEAS FOR THE HANDY MAN

Bench for Metal Work 58
Making Special Sanding Drums . 58
Pump Keeps Aquarium Aerated . 58
Lathe Chip Pan From Large Can 62
Making Comfortable Camp Beds 63
Homeworkshop Guild News . . 65
Swimming Board for Beginners . 66
A Rustic Swing Support 66
Relay for Photo-Electric Cells . 68
Readers Display Their Skill . . 71
Making Sailing Canoe Faster . . 72
Repairing Overstuffed Cushions . 73
Illuminated Tracing Box 80
Ball-Socket Hitch for Trailer . . 81
Old Bill Says— 84
Tempering and Melting Furnace . 86
Homemade Support for Telescope 87
Homemade Crane for Fireplace . 87
Handy Guide for Shingling . . . 89
Cleaning Glass Tubing 89
Coloring Turned Work 93
Finishing Cedar Chests 98
Lathe Aids in Boring Edgewise . 98
Improvised Lock Nut 99

In This Issue—Hundreds of Fascinating Articles Tell the Latest News of Laboratory Discoveries, Scientific Triumphs, and Amazing New Inventions

RAYMOND J. BROWN, *Editor*
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TABLE OF CONTENTS for AUGUST, 1936

Forging New Weapons for the War on Crime 9
EDWIN TEALE *tells how recent scientific discoveries are being used by the police*

Cleaning Up the Battlefields 12
An odd industry that reaps a harvest in unexploded shells, described by THOMAS M. JOHNSON

Name Your Noise—The Sound Libraries Have It 18
FAIRFAX DOWNEY *finds animal voices and shoe squeaks filed away in wax records*

Safety Lighting Drives Death Off the Highway 20
How engineers are fighting the demon of darkness, told by WALTER E. BURTON

Camera Wizards of the Movies Bring New Realism to the Screen 22
A peep with JOHN E. LODGE *into Hollywood's bag of photographic tricks*

Flying for Fun 30
ALDEN P. ARMAGNAC *forecasts a new era in aviation as amateurs invade the airways*

Life Story of the Black Widow and Her Insect Enemy 32
GEORGE ELWOOD JENKS *presents an amazing pictorial biography of a stealthy poisoner*

Giant Tongs Raise Sunken Ships 35
A novel vessel offers a new solution for the problem of salvaging valuable cargoes

August, 1936, Vol. 129, No. 2. **Popular Science Monthly** is published monthly at 353 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y., by the Popular Science Publishing Co., Inc. A. L. Cole, President and Treasurer; R. C. Wilson, Vice President; John Nichols, Vice President; C. D. Freeman, Vice President; F. W. Briggs, Sec'y. Entered as second-class matter Dec. 28, 1918, at the Post Office at New York under the act of March 3, 1879; additional entry as second-class matter at Dayton, Ohio. Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office Department, Canada. Printed in U. S. A.
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FEATURES AND DEPARTMENTS

Handy Aids for Home Owners . 4
Our Readers Say— 6
The Man With the Net . . . 29
Un-Natural History 41
Dragons Seen With Microscope . 42
New Household Utilities . . . 44
A Homemade Stroboscope . . . 46
Fun With Organic Chemistry . 48
Useful Hints for Radio Fans . . 51
Make a Picture-Frame Radio . . 52
Can You Afford a New Car? . 54
The Home Workshop 55
Photoflash Synchronizer 74

Cover Design by EDGAR F. WITTMACK

AUTOMOBILES

Carburetor Air Cleaner 15
Trailer Makes Bed for Two . . 25
Truck Carries Tailor Shop . . . 26
Amphibian Auto Is Also Submarine 26
New Highway Crossing Guards . 36
Puts Stripes on Cars 37
Borrowed Current Starts Car . . 76
Cotter-Pin Opens Valve 76
Protects New Radiators 76
Emergency Water Trough . . . 76
Metal Kick Plates 76
Cylinder-Head Guard 76

AVIATION

Dummies Double for Flyers . . 25
Plane Is Flying Hospital . . . 29
Paddle Wheels Drive Plane . . 37
Rescue Boat for Seaplane Mishaps 38

POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY FOR AUGUST, 1936

MODELS

"Thermal Hunter" Plane Model . 60
Automatic "Crew" Trims Sails . 72
Completing Our Patrol Boat . . 78
Broom Straws Aid Model Maker . 78
Kits for Attractive Models . . . 84
Cutlasses for Ship Models . . . 101

NEW PROCESSES AND INVENTIONS

Detects Carbon Monoxide Gas . 14
Portable Underwater Lights . . 14
Trolley Powers Hand Tools . . 14
Mirror Gives Sales Talk . . . 16
Tool Simplifies Rug Making . . 16
Signal System Uses Black Light . 16
Mechanical "Beach Comber" . . 17
Electric Pliers Melt Solder . . . 17
Barrier Guards Street Workmen . 27
Grinds Drills Uniformly . . . 27
Timer for Boxing Bouts . . . 27
Reflector Safety Belt 28
Pencil Houses Thermometer . . 36
Blind Can Read with Electric Eye 37
Compass-Watch Tells Direction . 38
Simple Respirator Saves Lives . 39
Pocket Letter Scale 39
Lathe Has Novel Motor Drive . 39
Letter Paper Forms Envelope . . 40
"Electric Doctor" Detects Ills . . 40

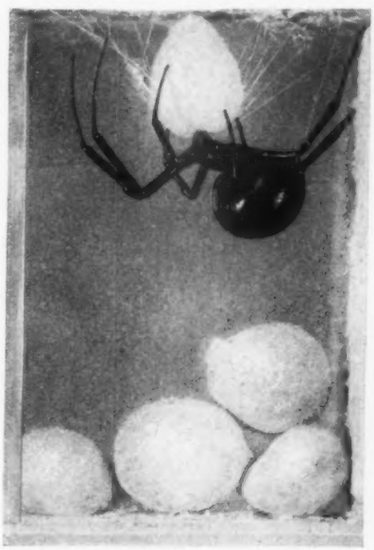
PHOTOGRAPHY

Stars Pictured on Tiny Plates . 16
New Way To Photograph Fossils 26
World's Biggest Enlargement . . 28
"Books" on Film Save Space . . 37
Album Cover Is Frame for Picture 38

UNUSUAL FACTS AND IDEAS

Homemade Windmill Generator . 14
Engine Has Floodlit Wheels . . 15
Desert Yields "Dry Ice" . . . 15
Growers "Brand" Fruit 15
Measure Earth's Magnetism . . 15
X Rays Show Flaws in Fruit . . 16
Cheese Laboratory on Wheels . . 17
Mothproofers Raise Own Moths . 17
Odd Equipment for Sewer Tour . 25
Silkworms Raised in City Home . 25
Our Speech Speeds Up 25
Portable Volcano Laboratory . . 26
Music From Prehistoric Bones . 27
Walking Clock Store 27
Odd View of Diving Polar Bear . 28
Students Design and Build House 28
Party Guests Eat Their Plates . 28
Game Combines Golf and Polo . 29
One Man Guards New Cell Block 29
Mobile Telephone Exchange . . 36
Blows Big Soap Bubbles . . . 36
Garden Pool in Living Room . 36
Tries "Death Ray" on Snake . . 38
Signs 12,000 Checks an Hour . . 38
Athletes Stage Torch Relay Run 39
Nerve Currents Measure Jitters 39
Kids Play With Cubs in Zoo . . 39

The Private Life Of the Black Widow



EVERY season, the average Black Widow spider makes five egg sacs like these. Since each sac contains about 300 eggs and most of the spiderlings live to maturity, each mother produces about 1,500 potential poisoners in a year. See the fascinating pictorial history of this insect beginning on page 32.

Robot Tells About Machines . . 40
Eighty-Year Rainfall Record . . 40
Bell Gives Gale Warning . . . 40
Science Stunts Easy To Perform . 50

CRAFTWORK

New American Flat Bow . . . 55
Lamp of Seven Shapes 58
Unique Refreshment Tray . . . 59
Hand-Tooled Leather Ornaments 63

WOODWORKING

Antique Hanging Bookshelf . . 59
Tricks in Varnishing Furniture . 66
Buoyant Hollow Aquaplane . . 67
Making Paneled Cabinet Doors . 70
Home Workshop Blueprints . . 90

IDEAS FOR THE HANDY MAN

Back-Yard "Beach" for Children . 57
Hose Reel Swings Beneath Porch . 57
Pickaninny Pipe Rack 58
Scale for Weighing Chemicals . . 62
Garden-Chair Frame of Pipe . . 62
Straightening a Bent Propeller . 62
Flash-Light Holder From Belting 64
Homemade Drive for Boat . . . 64
Sail Slides and Track 64
How To Bend Celluloid 64
Stunts for Camp Cooks 65
Device Helps Trim Square Stock . 68
Simple Tool-Marking Fluid . . 68
Jack Lifts Boat for Repairs . . . 68
Sanding Roll Used as Shaper . 68
Kites, Messengers, and Reels . . 69
Clothes Drier Supports Basket . . 79
Homeworkshop Guild News . . 80
Concrete for the Garden . . . 86
Braces From Electric Conduit . 89
Old Bill Says— 90
Pencil-Pointing Box 95
Stick Shellac Repairs Woodwork . 101

RAYMOND J. BROWN, *Editor*
ARTHUR WAKELING, *Home Workshop Editor*
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TABLE OF CONTENTS for SEPTEMBER, 1936

Television and Pocket Radios Promised by Short-Wave Tests . . 9
Revolutionary developments in communication, reviewed by EDWIN TEALE

Deadly Magnetic Rays Harnessed for War on Cancer 12
ALDEN P. ARMAGNAC *tells how atom-smashing guns are turned on a dreaded disease*

Queer Machines Train Swimmers 18
Inventors supply devices to teach tyros and champions new tricks

Memory Experts Made to Order 20
JOHN E. LODGE *sees average college students match the feats of "number wizards"*

Amateur Stargazers Help Complete Our Picture of the Universe 22
You don't have to have a long beard to discover a comet, says KENNETH M. SWEZEY

Amazing Voyages Made in Tiny Sailboats 30
JESSE F. GELDERS *introduces you to a fascinating fraternity of sea rovers*

Spoon-Fed Plants Reveal Secrets of Growth 32
A visit with ANDREW R. BOONE *to a farm that needs neither soil nor sun*

Newest Bank Vaults Defy the Cracksman 38
Steel fortresses of finance, described by ROBERT E. MARTIN

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Our Readers Say— 6
The Man With the Net . . . 37
Un-Natural History 45
New Household Appliances . . 46
Moss Under Your Microscope . 48
Pickle-Jar Museums 50
Home Experiments With Water . 52
New Helps for Radio Builders . 55
Portable Radio for Outings . . 56
Common Sense and Driving . . 58
The Home Workshop 59
Timely Aids for Autoists . . . 80

Cover Design by EDGAR F. WITTMACK

AUTOMOBILES

Claws Catch Bandit Cars . . . 15
Dial Shows Average Speed . . 17
Streamline Fire Engine 36
Brooms Sweep Nails From Road 37
Dummy Gives Safety Test . . 40
Road Toboggan Gives Thrill Ride 41

AVIATION

Modernized Hot-Air Balloon . . 16
Flyers Get Traffic Control . . . 16
Emergency Antenna for Plane . 16
Huge Hangar Houses Gliders . 35
Trolley Rails Form Hangar Roof 36
Private Pilots Get Light Radio . 40
New Radio Direction Finder . . 42

POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY FOR SEPTEMBER, 1936

MODELS

Whole Family Makes Models . 28
Thumb Planes for Model Workers 67
Models Incased in Book Ends . 70
Historic Gettysburg Cannon . . 72
Our Construction Kits 92
Hand Drill Serves as Lathe . . 95

NEW PROCESSES AND INVENTIONS

Collapsible Theater Stage . . . 14
Coops Keep Workers Cool . . . 14
New Illuminated Screw Driver. . 14
Fishline Made of Spun Glass . . 15
Invents Humane Animal Trap . . 17
Window Curtain Absorbs Noise . 17
Green "Blackboards" Rest Eyes . 24
Device Sucks Smoke Away . . 25
Solution Fireproofs Wood . . . 26
Rocket Carries Instruments . . 26
Leveler Stops Furniture Wabble 26
Makes Low-Cost Plastic . . . 27
Crooked-Bouncing Exercise Ball 27
Barrel-Shaped Boat for Sea Trip 27
Music Aid Detects Sour Notes . 28
Cycle Uses Front-Wheel Drive . 34
Shows Hidden Fingerprints . . 35
Rake Attachment for Lawn Mower 35
Loudspeaker Fire-Alarm System 35
New Garden-Hose Coupling . . 36
Wind Screen Shelters Bathers . . 37
Novel Elevating Scaffolding . . 37
Hand Oiler Like Fountain Pen . 40
Antiseptic Makes Cloth Germproof 40
Metal Grid Cools Pipe Smoke . 40
Electric Marking Tool 42
Razor Blade Has Four Edges . 42
Handle Turns Coping-Saw Blade 43

PHOTOGRAPHY

New Adjustable Tripod . . . 16
Makes X-Rays of Flowers . . . 28
Handy Photographic Thermometer 34
Making Half-Tone Engravings . 76
A Portable Darkroom 78
Sliding Bracket for Enlarger . . 78
Holder for Enlarging Paper . . 78

RADIO

Race Drivers Use Radio . . . 17
Amateurs Stage Treasure Hunt . 27
Vacuum Tube Probes Molecules . 34
Trucks Aid Television Tests . . 35
Radio Combined With Camera . 41
Boats Get Phone Calls by Radio 43

UNUSUAL FACTS AND IDEAS

Sketches Flies for Science . . . 14
Build Mammoth Loudspeakers . 15
Electricity Cures Hay Fever . . 15
Pest Yields Vitamins 16
Biggest Half-Tone Screen . . . 17
New Way To Trace Mosquitoes . 24
Beer in Every Dish 24
Net Shields Pitcher in Practice . 24
Statue From Steel and Granite . 24
Ghost Ship Haunts Arctic . . . 25
Cosmic Rays Win Race With Light 25
Phone Booth Is First-Aid Station 25
Dogs Trained To Hear for Deaf . 26
New Shapes for Artificial Teeth . 26
Use Odd Room To Study Children 27
Museum Gets Giant Toad . . . 28
Fingers "Hear" Speech 28
Raises Rare Jungle Birds . . . 29
Mammoth Classroom Micrometer 34
Vertical Berry Patch 36
Lights Show Indoor Golf Score . 40
Death Ray for Germs 41
Mobile Prospecting Laboratory . 42
Spare Parts Make Toy Tractor . 43
Chemical Gun Kills Dandelions . 43
Great Aqueduct Tunnel Speeded 44
Home Tests of Scientific Laws . 54

CRAFTWORK

Hall Lamp Like Old Lantern . . 62
Corner Cabinet Hangs on Wall . 64
Turning Wooden Salad Plates . 64
Utilizing Scraps of Wood . . . 65
Miniature Stable Holds Ties . . 65
Graceful Coffee Table 66
Whittled Wooden Shoes . . . 74
Carved Dinner Bell 88

IDEAS FOR THE HANDY MAN

Decoys for Bird Hunters . . . 59
Whirligig Turns on Auto Axle . 62
How To Build Dog Houses . . 63
Stringing Your Tennis Racket . 68
Window Shades Give More Air . 68
Homemade Weather Guide . . 69
A Portable Workshop 70
New Use for Old Brushes . . . 70
Timesaving Welder's Bench . . 71
Satin Finish for Furniture . . . 75
Folding Crib for Traveling . . 81
Homeworkshop Guild News . . 82
Graphite as Lubricant 85
Measuring With Cigarettes . . 85
Home Workshop Blueprints . . 86
Old Bill Says— 87
Preserving Celluloid Windows . 88
Copper-Coated Hammer . . . 93
Marking Gauge Cuts Grooves . 95
Ball Handle Improves T-Wrench 95
Keeping Bed Slats in Place . . . 95

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TABLE OF CONTENTS for OCTOBER, 1936

Digging the World's Biggest Ditch 11
Scooping a river bed eighty miles across desert sands, described by STERLING GLEASON

Underground Fortresses Guard France From Invasion 14
THOMAS M. JOHNSON *gives you a peep at the most formidable defense line ever built*

Modern Daniel Boones Learn Marksmanship With Muzzle-Loaders 20
How historic weapons of the pioneers created a new sport, told by WALTER E. BURTON

Amazing Feats of Surgery at Sea 24
ANDREW R. BOONE *takes you aboard the floating hospital of Uncle Sam's Navy*

Famous Planes Find Last Landing in Junk Yard of the Air . . 32
JOHN E. LODGE *interviews a dealer in aviation curios and spare parts*

Secrets of Coal Solved in Unique Laboratory 34
Sleuthing with microscopes among ancient fuel deposits, reported by ROBERT E. MARTIN

The Way We Stand 40
ARTHUR GRAHAME *finds that modern tests disprove old ideas of "correct posture"*

How Will the World End? 52
Two possible fates that may overtake our planet, pictured by GAYLORD JOHNSON

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FEATURES AND DEPARTMENTS

New Ideas for Home Owners . . 6
Our Readers Say— 8
The Man With the Net 27
Un-Natural History 47
Microscope Problems Answered . 48
Newest Household Inventions . . 50
Home Experiments with Iodine . 54
Simple Scientific Tests 56
Build This Wrist-Watch Radio . 57
New Ideas for the Radio Fan . . 58
A High-Power Amplifier 59
Are You Wasting Gasoline? . . 60
The Home Workshop 61
Six Kinks for Car Owners . . . 80

Cover Design by EDGAR F. WITTMACK

AUTOMOBILES

Touch-Up Tape Repairs Finish . 36
Light Shows Battery Water Level 38
New Streamline Bus 42
Patrol Car Is Also Ambulance . 43
Hub-Cap Pump Keeps Tire Inflated 44
Testing Your Oil Filter 80
Reflector Gives Light in Car . . 80
Hose Nozzle for Car Washing . 80
Iron Bar Locks Trailer Wheels . 80
Pump Handle Holds Valve Parts 80
Bumper Shields Protect Finish . 80

AVIATION

New Ambulance Plane 19
Odd Stratosphere Costume . . 29
Planes Get Rapid-Fire Cannon . 45

RAYMOND J. BROWN, *Editor*
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TABLE OF CONTENTS for NOVEMBER, 1936

Cosmic Rays Trapped in Mountain-Top Laboratory 13

JOHN E. LODGE *tells the story of a dramatic attempt to solve a riddle of nature*

Real Scenery for Popeye 16

Movie-cartoon characters do their stuff before realistic midget stage settings

American Date Orchards Naturalize an Ancient Fruit 22

A visit with STERLING GLEASON *to picturesque palm groves of the Southwest*

Food or Poison? 24

Weird cases of a mysterious malady, unearthed by DR. FREDERIC DAMRAU

Amateur Explorers Make Amazing New Discoveries 26

Hobbyists are advance guard for professional expeditions, according to ROBERT E. MARTIN

Aviation's Last Frontier 32

How flyers are blazing new sky trails miles above the earth, told by EDWIN TEALE

No Fooling! Modern Movie Thrills Are Real 38

DICK ROSSON *recounts some of his hair-raising adventures as a "ghost director"*

Science Remakes the Dog 42

JESSE F. GELDERS *sees man's best friend being adapted to changed living conditions*

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FEATURES AND DEPARTMENTS

Handy Aids for Home Owners . 6
Our Readers Say— 10
Un-Natural History 47
Your Microscope as a Shop Tool 48
Latest Household Conveniences . 50
How the Ice Age May Return . 52
Home Experiments with Chlorine 54
Useful Ideas for Radio Fans . . 57
Portable Short-Wave Transmitter 58
Keep Your Car Looking New . 60
The Home Workshop 61
Timely Hints for Car Owners . 80

Cover Design by EDGAR F. WITTMACK

AUTOMOBILES

Air from Tire Operates Jack . . 18
Two-Faced Mirror Cuts Glare . 18
Children Taught Safe Driving . . 21
Key Sets Car-Speed Governor . 30
"Stethoscope" Finds Motor Ills . 35
Light Helps Prevent Crashes . . 44
Auto Serves as Stamp Album . . 45

AVIATION

Clipped-Wing Training Plane . . 18
Planes Have Comforts of Home 20
Speedy Rocket Plane 35
Four-in-One Plane Changes Wings 44

RAYMOND J. BROWN, *Editor*
ARTHUR WAKELING, *Home Workshop Editor*
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TABLE OF CONTENTS for DECEMBER, 1936

How Science Seeks To Solve the Mystery of Life 13

EDWIN TEALE *reports on some amazing researches that reproduce vital processes*

Hunting Whales with Speedboats 16

An ultramodern version of an ancient industry, described by ROBERT E. MARTIN

No Rest for Streamline Trains 22

Quick turn-arounds keep the Diesels rolling, says ALEXANDER MAXWELL

Are You Sane? 24

WILLIAM WOLF *tells about the odd mental quirks that make people do queer things*

Tiny Homemade Planes Bring More Speed to the Airways . . 26

ANDREW R. BOONE *introduces you to the young dare-devils who pioneer in aviation*

Your Christmas Tree 32

GROVER C. MUELLER *finds it's a big job to supply Uncle Sam with holiday evergreens*

Putting "Popular Science" on the Screen 34

Behind the scenes with JOHN E. LODGE *at the filming of a unique movie feature*

Garden of Drugs Grows Rare Medicinal Plants 42

A visit with WALTER E. BURTON *to an unusual experimental farm*

December, 1936, Vol. 129, No. 6. **Popular Science Monthly** is published monthly at 353 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y., by the Popular Science Publishing Co., Inc. A. L. Cole, President and Treasurer; R. C. Wilson, Vice President; John Nichols, Vice President; C. D. Freeman, Vice President; F. W. Briggs, Sec'y. Entered as second-class matter Dec. 28, 1918, at the Post Office at New York under the act of March 3, 1879; additional entry as second-class matter at Dayton, Ohio. Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office Department, Canada. Printed in U. S. A. Copyright, 1936, by the Popular Science Publishing Co., Inc. Single copy, 15 cents. Yearly subscriptions to United States, its possessions, and Canada, $1.50; foreign countries, excepting Canada, $2. Subscribers must notify us of change of address four weeks in advance of the next publication date. Be sure to give both old and new address. The contents of this magazine must not be reprinted without permission. The editors are not responsible for unsolicited contributions, and cannot guarantee the return of such material or insure against its loss. Contributions not accompanied by sufficient postage will not be returned. In presenting numerous stories of new products of applied science, Popular Science Monthly does not underwrite the business methods of the individuals or concerns producing them. The use of Popular Science Monthly articles for stock-selling schemes is never authorized.

FEATURES AND DEPARTMENTS

New Home-Building Aids . . . 6
Our Readers Say— 10
The Man With the Net 41
Un-Natural History 49
Helpful New Household Tools . 50
Polarizing Your Microscope . . 52
Is the Earth a Pyramid? 54
Simple Home-Chemistry Tests . 56
New Ideas for Radio Fans . . . 59
Six-in-One Wave Trap 60
Tips on Auto Trailers 62
Short Cuts for Car Owners . . . 80
Your Christmas Movies 82

Cover Design by EDGAR F. WITTMACK

AUTOMOBILES

Reader Builds Streamline Racer . 18
Chemical Wiper Is Refillable . . 18
Longest Auto Race Track . . . 39
Paths Are Roads for Tiny Car . . 39
Realistic "Log-Cabin" Trailer . . 41
Wind Lights Trailer 46

AVIATION

Launch Plane from Railway Car . 18
Rising Seat Gives Pilot View . . 19
Plane Made of Stainless Steel . . 21
New "Flivver" Autogiro 40
Balls Give Plane Buoyancy . . 41